

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A process for reducing nitrogen oxides present in a lean exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine by selective catalytic reduction on a reduction catalyst using ammonia, comprising oxidizing in the absence of an electrical gas discharge some of the nitrogen monoxide present in the exhaust gas to nitrogen dioxide so that the exhaust gas contains 30 to 70 vol.% of nitrogen dioxide before contact with the reduction catalyst, passing the exhaust gas, together with ammonia, over said reduction catalyst, wherein the reduction catalyst comprises a zeolite exchanged with a transition metal.

Claim 2 (original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the transition metal is a member selected from the group consisting of vanadium, chromium, iron, nickel, copper, cerium, praseodymium, terbium and mixtures thereof.

Claim 3 (original): The process according to claim 2, wherein the reduction catalyst comprises a zeolite exchanged with a member selected from the group consisting of iron, copper, cerium or mixtures thereof.

Claim 4 (original): The process according to claim 3, wherein the reduction catalyst comprises at least one zeolite selected from the group consisting of ZSM-5, A, beta, X, Y, ferrierite, Linde type L and faujasite.

Claim 5 (original): The process according to claim 4, wherein the reduction catalyst comprises a ZSM-5 zeolite exchanged with at least one of iron and copper.

Claim 6 (original): The process according to claim 1, wherein oxidation of the nitrogen monoxide present in the exhaust gas takes place in the presence of an oxidation catalyst.

Claim 7 (original): The process according to claim 6 wherein the oxidation catalyst comprises platinum on an active, optionally stabilized, aluminum oxide.

Claim 8 (original): The process according to claim 7 wherein the oxidation catalyst is deposited on a honeycomb carrier.

Claim 9 (original): The process according to claim 1, wherein oxidation of the nitrogen monoxide present in the exhaust gas takes place with an electrical gas discharge.

Claim 10 (original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the ammonia required for selective catalytic reduction is obtained from a compound which can be hydrolyzed to give ammonia.

Claim 11 (original): The process according to claim 10, further comprising adding said hydrolyzable compound to the exhaust gas after partial oxidation of the nitrogen monoxide and before contact with the reduction catalyst and then passing the exhaust gas over a hydrolysis catalyst.

Claim 12 (original): The process according to claim 10, wherein said compound which can be hydrolyzed to give ammonia is urea or ammonium carbamate.

Claim 13–16 (cancelled).